MARVEL REMEMBERS

JOHN ROMITA

MARVEL 9

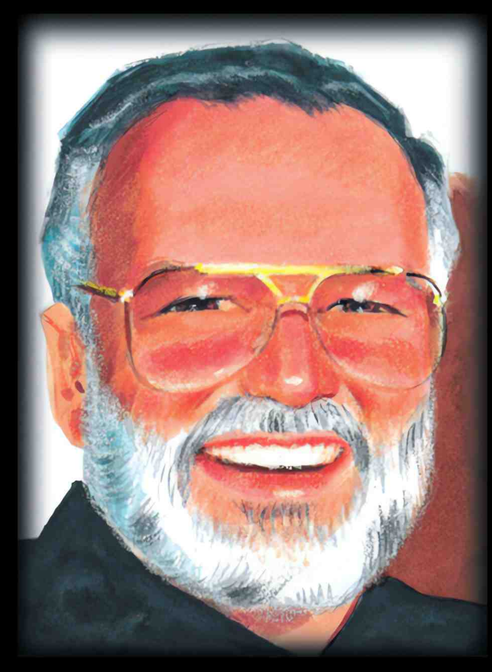
LGY#291

MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN

ZIGLAR
VICENTINI
SABBATINI
VALENZA

John Romita

1930 – 2023



Marvel mourns the passing of comic-book artist John Romita Sr., whose work on *Amazing Spider-Man* helped make the character a worldwide sensation. In his work as Marvel's art director, he designed the Punisher and Wolverine and served as mentor for countless artists during his decades-long tenure with the company.

Romita had a profound effect on everyone he met at Marvel. He was always kind and warm and served as an inspiration to all who knew him or followed his work. Romita helped build the Marvel Universe as we know it, and he will be greatly missed.

"John Romita Sr. was an incomparable artist who brought so many iconic Marvel characters to life on the page and set the tone and look of Marvel's comics for decades. His version of Spider-Man has inspired so many of us at Marvel Studios. Our thoughts are with his family and the generations of artists and fans who fell in love with the characters he drew."

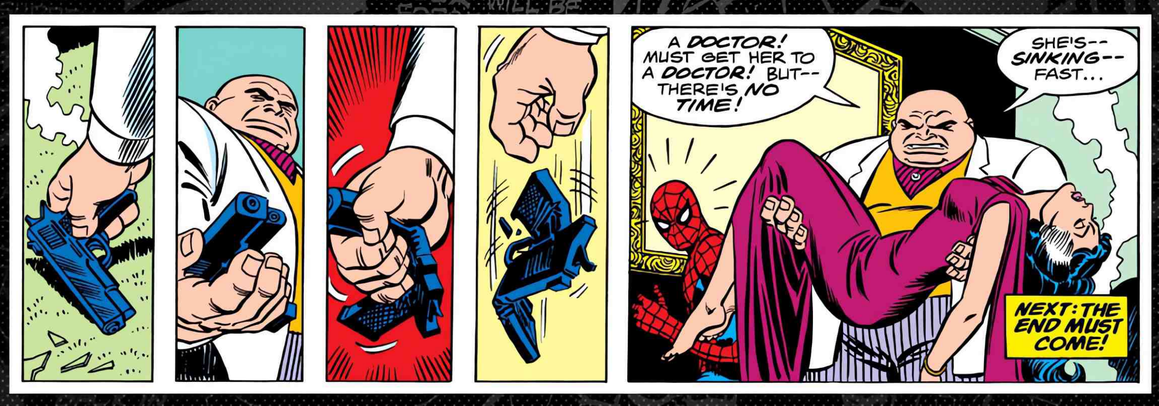
— KEVIN FEIGE

"I was recently able to fawn over some of John Romita Sr.'s original Spider-Man pages, and the word that kept popping into my mind as I marveled over his linework was 'timeless.' His style was such a departure from what had come before, which John did say made him nervous, but one that came to define the look of Peter, Spider-Man, MJ, Gwen and everyone else in their orbit. And the same was true for every Marvel character John designed, penciled and inked. Whether as an artist or art director, John's work influenced generations of comic book artists. With his passing, the comic industry loses a true legend, but just like his artwork, his legacy will remain timeless."

— C.B. CEBULSKI

"When you close your eyes and picture Spider-Man, you're probably picturing a John Romita Sr. Spider-Man. From his debut of the character in *Amazing Spider-Man #39*, the subsequent fifty issues of art, more than a hundred covers and the work he did on the newspaper strip, John defined Spidey for generations of people around the world. That would be enough for anyone else, but John was also an excellent art director, a fantastic father, a doting grandfather and a gentleman. All of us making Spider-Man comics, and Marvel Comics in general, work in his shadow and strive to live up to the example of the legend, Jazzy John Romita."

— NICK LOWE



DECADES OF AMAZING WORK

John Romita wore many hats at Marvel. His most famous contribution was his run on *Amazing Spider-Man*, including the above cover to the series' landmark fiftieth issue. His association with the character would include drawing the cover of the famed wedding of Peter Parker and Mary Jane Watson, *Amazing Spider-Man Annual #21*, seen opposite top right. With Stan Lee, he started the Spider-Man newspaper strip, including the sequence with Kingpin from Sept. 25, 1977, seen opposite center. Behind the scenes, Romita was responsible for designing many of Marvel's most famous characters. At bottom opposite are Romita's costume designs for Black Widow and Wolverine.

"One of the highlights of my career was working with John Romita Sr. I couldn't believe that my 25-year-old self was working and interacting with him, and what made it even better was that he was so considerate and kind – something that has stuck with me ever since, among many other memories with him. It was one of the rare moments where you meet one of your heroes and he exceeds your expectations in every possible way.

His contributions to Marvel's pantheon and culture are immense, and he will be sorely missed. He was a great and kind man who truly made the world a better place. My deepest condolences to Virginia, Johnny and the Romita family."

— DAN BUCKLEY

Years ago, high school student MILES MORALES was bitten by a genetically altered spider and gained incredible arachnid-like abilities: the proportional speed, strength, and agility of a spider, adhesive fingers and toes, the power to direct a bioelectric charge like a sting or to form a sword-like weapon, to camouflage himself to the point of invisibility, and to detect approaching danger using his precognitive "Spider-Sense." He hid these abilities at first, until a hero inspired him to use them to try to make the world more just. HE IS...

MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN

SPUN OUT

PART TWO

After traumatic encounters with super villains RABBLE and CARNAGE, Miles' Spider-Sense has been working on overdrive, causing him to react to things that aren't threats. Noticing his panicked behavior, his girlfriend, TIANA TOOMES, A.K.A. STARLING, urged Miles to seek out therapy to work through these harrowing events. Their discussion was cut short when they ran into THE HOBGOBLIN ransacking an abandoned Beyond Corporation warehouse.

During the ensuing fight, Spider-Man and Starling were separated. With Miles' Spider-Sense malfunctioning, there's no telling when Hobgoblin will strike!

CODY ZIGLAR WRITER
FEDERICO VICENTINI & FEDERICO SABBATINI ARTISTS
BRYAN VALENZA COLOR ARTIST VC's CORY PETIT LETTERER

DIKE RUAN & ALEJANDRO SÁNCHEZ COVER ARTISTS

MATEUS MANHANINI; MIGUEL MERCADO VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

JAY BOWEN DESIGN KAEDEN MCGAHEY ASSISTANT EDITOR TOM GRONEMAN EDITOR
NICK LOWE EXECUTIVE EDITOR C.B. CEBULSKI EDITOR IN CHIEF

SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE AND STEVE DITKO

MY **SPIDER-SENSE** PICKED A HECK OF A DAY TO START FREAKIN' OUT. THERE'S NO WAY HOBGOBLIN STEALIN' BEYOND TECH WILL BE GOOD--

WAIT! I CAN FEEL SOMETHING. IT'S FAINT BUT...

RATTLE

WHAT?!

BEHIND--?!

BZZZZZZ

IT'S OKAY-- I'M STILL...

SWISH

...FASTER?

YOU'RE REALLY STARTIN' TO SET YOURSELF APART FROM THE OTHER SPIDEY, *HUH?*

GOTTA KEEP THINGS FRESH, YOU KNOW?

DANG, HOBGOBLIN'S A LOT STRONGER THAN THE LAST TIME WE FOUGHT!

YOUR CRUDE ATTEMPT AT FORMING BIOELECTRIC WEAPONS MAKES ME THINK THIS IS A POWER THAT'S ***UNTESTED.***

JUST LIKE YOU!

EFFFH!

YEAH, WELL. THAT'S NOT THE ONLY NEW THING I'VE LEARNED!

MISTY'S COMBAT TRAINING PAYS OFF AGAIN.

FWIP

GOTTA PUT HIM DOWN FOR GOOD--

WHIP

OOF!

THIS GLIDER IS A LOT MORE ANNOYING WITHOUT A WORKING SPIDEY-SENSE!

MUST COMPLETE... MY MISSION! THE VOICE..*HER* VOICE... COMPELS ME!

THE *VOICE?* UH-HUH, YEAH, ALL SOUNDS VERY NORMAL.

WHY WOULD YOU EVEN CARE ABOUT BEYOND'S AFFAIRS? I KNOW WHAT THEY TRIED TO DO TO YOU! YOU OWE THEM NOTHING!

THWIP

BEYOND IS TRASH, BUT YOU OUT YOUR MIND IF YOU THINK I'M LETTIN' YOU OUT ON THE STREETS WITH WHATEVER YOU STOLE.

THEN YOUR INTERFERENCE HERE IS A TEST--A SIGN--I MUST CRUSH YOU IF I AM TO RECLAIM WHAT IS...*RIGHTFULLY MINE!*

DANG, THAT'S CRAZY, HOB! YOU'RE NOT GONNA BELIEVE THIS...

...BUT I THINK I WAS GIVEN THE SAME SIGN!

THWACK

AIN'T NO WAY YOU WALKIN' OUTTA HERE WITH THAT TECH, HOBGOBLIN!

GIVE ME EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT, SPIDER!

YOU'RE AN INTERESTING SORT.

I'M STILL GOING TO KILL YOU FOR GETTING IN MY WAY.

"AND I'M NOT GONNA GIVE YOU AN **EASY** DEATH."

W--WHO'S THERE?!

WRR-CLK

HELLO, HUMAN, I'M G.A.R.E. HOW MAY I BE OF ASSISTANCE?

THE HELL ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE?

G.A.R.E.! GUIDED ASSET RECOVERY ENGINE. HOW MAY I BE OF ASSISTANCE?

YOU SERIOUS?

‹EASING TENSION› I AM AS SERIOUS AS A HEART ATTACK, HUMAN. HA HA HA. JUST A LITTLE PREPROGRAMMED JOKE FOR YOU. I COME WITH OVER 25,000 SUCH HUMOROUS ICE-BREAK--

YEAH, LET'S SKIP ALL THAT. I'M **STARLING.** WHERE--?

HELLO, HUMAN STARLING. ‹SEARCHING› OH DEAR, IT APPEARS A PIECE OF **BEYOND INCORPORATED** PROPERTY HAS BEEN TAKEN. ‹INTERROGATING› DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS, HUMAN STARLING?

NAH, BUT IF YOU SHOW ME HOW TO GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE, I CAN TAKE YOU TO THE GUY WHO DOES.

‹GUIDING› RIGHT THIS WAY, HUMAN STARLING!

SO, WHAT EXACTLY DID HOBGOBLIN STEAL?

<INDEXING> RODERICK KINGSLEY, A.K.A. HOBGOBLIN: SECURITY THREAT-LEVEL-- HIGH. THAT IS MOST UNSATISFACTORY.

<PROCESSING> THE FIRE SHUTTERS SEEM TO BE DAMAGED AS A RESULT OF KINGSLEY'S EXPLOSIVES. REPAIRING THEM WILL TAKE SOME TIME. SHALL I TELL YOU ANOTHER PREPROGRAMMED HUMOROUS LINE?

PLEASE DON'T. AND YOU DIDN'T ANSWER MY QUESTION.

WHAT EXACTLY **WAS** THIS?

<DEFLECTING> TYPE-FOUR MANILA FOLDERS. PERFECT FOR HOLDING OFFICE-RELATED PAPERWORK.

NO, I MEAN THE--

<HUMOROUS> ANOTHER HUMOROUS RESPONSE. HA HA HA. THAT IS A PROTOTYPE DESIGNED FOR ADAPTIVE SELECTIVE-MEMORY EDITING. AND IT APPEARS IT CURRENTLY IS IN MR. KINGSLEY'S POSSESSION.

"ADAPTIVE SELECTIVE MEMORY EDITING"? SOUNDS LIKE A FANCY WAY OF SAYING WIPIN' FOLKS' MEMORIES.

<ENCOURAGING> YES, EXACTLY! GOOD JOB, HUMAN STARLING.

WHAT KIND OF COMPANY WOULD BUILD SOMETHING LIKE THIS, G.A.R.E.?

ONLY THE MOST UPSTANDING AND ETHICALLY RESPONSIBLE KIND, HUMAN STARLING. THE **BEYOND CORPORATION.**

THUDOOM

AIN'T GOT TIME FOR THIS.

SORRY, G.A.R.E., BUT WE'RE ON A TIME CRUNCH HERE.

HUMAN STARLING, THAT COULD DAMAGE THE FIRE SHUTTERS IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL--

GOOD.

CLANG

WE NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE.

"SPIDER-MAN COULD NEED OUR HELP."

THIS'S ONE HELL OF A FIGHTING SPIRIT!

BUT IT BURNED MUCH BRIGHTER EARLIER. YOU'RE LOSING YOUR STRENGTH, I'D SAY. THIS SWORD MUST **DRAIN** YOU, *HUH?* LIKE I SAID--UNTESTED.

I'VE TAKEN PLENTY OF TESTS, AND I PASS MOST OF THEM, SCOUT'S HONOR--

LET ME SHOW YOU...

WHUMP!

...HOW YOU LACK POLISH.

SKK!

YOU ALSO LACK **DISCIPLINE!**

THIS IS...GONNA LOOK...PRETTY POLISHED... TO ME...

BUT MAYBE YOU NEED A CLOSER LOOK.

THWIP!

THWIP

THWIP

KRUNCH

SPEAKING OF "UNTESTED"--YOUR CRAZY METER'S BEEN GOING OFF ALL NIGHT. WHICH IS SAYING A LOT, HONESTLY.

ALL YOUR TALK OF "VOICES" AND "SIGNS" MAKES ME THINK YOU MIGHT NOT EVEN KNOW WHY YOU'RE REALLY HERE.

THWIP

THWIP

SO TELL ME-- WHO IS THE WEAK ONE?

M-MOMENTARY CONFUSION! N-NOTHING MORE! YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND...

...YOU HAVE A MORAL COMPASS. YOU CARE ABOUT OTHERS! ABOUT YOURSELF! ALL YOU SPIDER-FOLK WANT IS TO KEEP PEOPLE SAFE!

ME? I'M A CERTIFIED DEATH-DEALER. I'VE PEERED INTO THE ABYSS, AND THE ONLY THING I SAW WAS A JOB WELL DONE!

BEEP

SPIDEY-SENSE FAILING ME AGAIN--

BOOM

HAHAHHA!!!

HAHAHAHAHAA.

YOU FEEL THAT? THAT'S THE WALLS CLOSING IN, KIDDO.

YOU EITHER LEARN TO GET A HANDLE ON THESE THINGS, OR THEY'LL EAT YOU ALIVE.

IF YOU WANT TO *EAT* SOMETHING...

THEN TRY *THIS!*

G.A.R.E.! HOBGOBLIN OVER THERE IS TRYING TO STEAL YOUR BEYOND SECRETS. AND YOU DON'T LIKE THAT, RIGHT?!

KRAK

<THREATENING> I DO NOT, HUMAN!

WHAT *IS* THAT?

THAT'S G.A.R.E. THAT'S ALL I GOT OUT OF HIM, HONESTLY.

WORD.

SHAKE IT OFF AND LET'S GET THIS GUY OUT OF OUR HAIR. YOU GOOD?

Y-YEAH. WE GOT THIS.

YEAH, WE DO.

YOU'RE GONNA NEED MORE FIGHT THAN *THIS!* YOU CAN'T BEAT THE DARKNESS BACK THAT EASY!

I'M ON A MISSION, AND I MUST SEE IT THROUGH!

AND WE GONNA BE PUTTIN' A STOP TO ALL THAT.

THWIP!

YUP!

I GOT THE *BOMBS!*

I GOT *HIM!*

DANG, THAT DROP KICK IS LOOKIN' PRETTY TESTED TO *ME,* WHAT YOU SAY, HOB?

CRACK

GAAARRRGGGH!

NO! THE PROTOTYPE!

CLANG

I'M GROWING TIRED OF THIS, SPIDER.

THEN YOU'RE REALLY GONNA HATE *THIS.*

STARLING--
GIMME A
BOOST?

THWIP THWIP!

HERE
YA GO!

KRAK!

GUGGK!

CAN'T LEAVE... WITHOUT IT...

THAT THING LETS YOU REWRITE MINDS ON A *WHIM*--WE AIN'T LETTING YOU OUT OF HERE WITH IT!

WHAT... SHE...SAID...

-HUFF- WON'T STOP ME FROM THIS! -HUFF-

...WON'T KEEP ME... FROM THE REAL FIGHT.

WHAT FIGHT, YOU MANIAC?

YOU TRYNA GET WORKED OVER BY US *TWICE?*

FOOLS, YOU'LL SEE SOON ENOUGH!

THWIP!

YOU'RE CRAZY--

MILES, NO!

HAHAHAHAHA! LIKE I SAID, KIDS. I SAW THE ABYSS AND LIKED WHAT STARED BACK!

NO-- SPIDER- SENSE--

MOVE!

GEEZ, WHAT A @#$%!

CAN'T BELIEVE YOU SPIDER-PEOPLE DEAL WITH THESE WEIRDOS SO MUCH.

<CXXXCLING> EXTXXRING POXER SAXFXE M-MOXXXE--

BUT I DON'T SEE HOBGOBLIN ANYWHERE.

LIVE TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY, RIGHT, SPIDER-MAN? SPIDER-MAN?!

MILES?

-SOB-

ARE YOU OKAY?! ARE YOU HURT?!

I--I DON'T KNOW.

WHAT'S **WRONG** WITH ME? WHAT'S GOING ON?

MY SPIDER-SENSE NOT WORKING ALMOST GOT US BOTH **KILLED!**

IT'S OKAY, BABE.

JUST TELL ME WHAT YOU NEED.

HELP, TI. I--I THINK I REALLY NEED HELP.

YEAH?

"IT'S JUST... SO MUCH HAS HAPPENED.

"TO ME.

"TO **US.** IT'S ALL HITTING ME."

IT'S OKAY.

-SNIFF-

WE'LL GET YOU SOME HELP. BUT LET'S DO IT AWAY FROM ALL THIS. SOUND GOOD?

HEH, Y-YEAH, SOUNDS GOOD.

WEEWOOWEEWOOWEEWOO

SIRENS SOUND PRETTY CLOSE. DON'T THINK WE'RE GONNA HAVE TIME TO LOOK FOR THAT GOBLIN GUY.

YEAH, AND IF AGENT GAO OR ANY OF THOSE ***CAPE KILLERS*** ARE WITH 'EM, THERE'S NO WAY WE'RE NOT GONNA BE BROUGHT UP ON VIGILANTE CHARGES...

WE DEF SHOULD FIND SOMEPLACE QUIETER.

THWIP

A FEW ROOFTOPS LATER.

YOU CAN TALK. WHAT'S UP?

I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH, BUT I CAN START.

GUESS IT'S MY SPIDEY-SENSE? IT'S LIKE IT THINKS THERE'S DANGER ***EVERYWHERE***. EVEN INSIDE. I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, BUT I NEED TO GET IT UNDER CONTROL.

I NEED TO GET ***ME*** UNDER CONTROL.

I THINK BETWEEN US, MISTY, OR SOME OTHER SUPER-PERSON IN THIS CITY, WE CAN FIND SOMEONE, UH, SUITED TO HANDLE YOUR STUFF.

I--I'D LIKE THAT. A-AND YOU RIGHT. I KNOW WE CAN. JUST SCARY STARTING THAT PROCESS, I GUESS.

YEAH, WELL.

FIGHTING A PSYCHO ON A GLIDER WITH PUMPKIN BOMBS WASN'T EXACTLY EASY WORK, YOU KNOW.

HA. HONESTLY WOULD RATHER DEAL WITH THAT THAN WHATEVER THE HECK IS GOING ON INSIDE MY ***BRAIN.*** CAN WE JUST CHILL HERE FOR A WHILE?

MY EARS ARE STILL RINGING, AND I CAN'T SHOW UP FOR JUDGE AND SELIA LOOKING LIKE THIS.

PROB FOR THE BEST ANYWAY. AIN'T NO WAY WE'RE MAKING IT TO THE SHOW ON TIME NOW.

"TAKE YOUR TIME. WE AIN'T IN NO RUSH TO GET ANYWHERE."

LATER. ELSEWHERE.

I SEE IT NOW...THAT BURNING IN THE BACK OF MY BRAIN ***WAS*** A VOICE.

TO FIND MY PLACE BACK AMONG YOUR RANKS. SO THAT I MAY FINALLY UNLOCK MY TRUE STRENGTH.

MY TRUE PURPOSE!

AND I HEAR IT NOW! LOUD AND AS CLEAR AS EVER!

YES--***RRGGH***--YOU... WANTED THIS TECH...SO THAT YOU MAY...TIGHTEN YOUR GRIP OVER MY MIND. DISSOLVE ME DEEPER INTO YOUR CHORUS...

YOU MADE ME...FORGET ***SO MUCH***...BUT THE QUIET...THE PEACE...BEFORE YOUR SCREAMING...COULD NOT BE ERASED THIS TIME. NOT ENTIRELY.

ANOTHER VOICE CUT THROUGH THE SONG OF LIES. FROM THE PART OF ***MY*** MIND THAT REMAINED PROTECTED. FAINTLY AWARE... OF YOUR...INFLUENCE.

A LAST EMBER OF A FLAME...FIGHTING FOR ITS ***FREEDOM!***

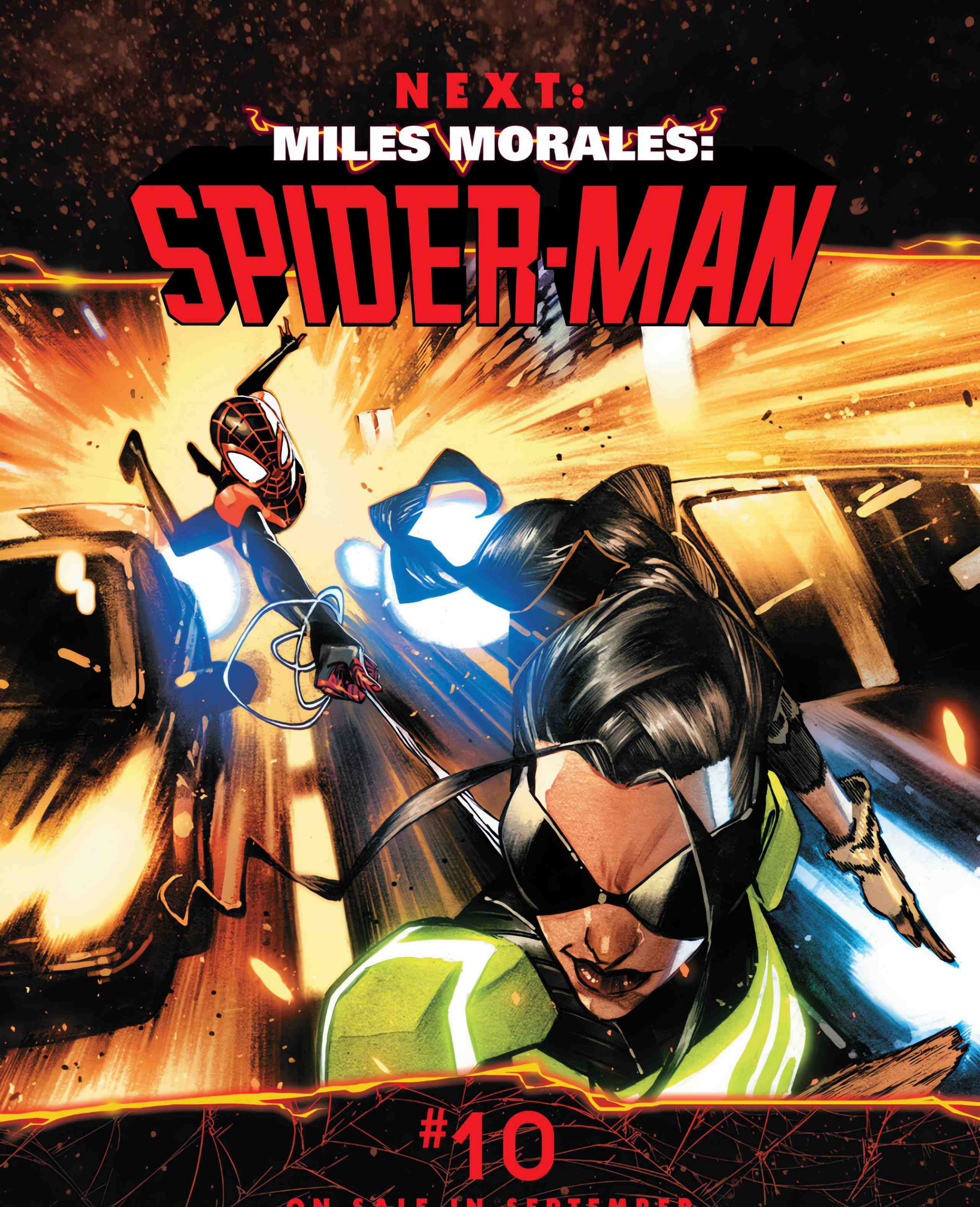
THE VOICE OF *RODERICK KINGSLEY*, THE *HOBGOBLIN!*

FINALLY *FREE FROM YOUR CAGE* THANKS TO THE VERY DEVICE YOU COVETED FOR YOURSELF.

THIS WAS JUST THE *FIRST* BATTLE WON. SO CONSIDER THIS MY DECLARATION OF *WAR...*

...MY OLD *QUEEN!*

TO BE CONTINUED...



ON SALE IN SEPTEMBER

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